codes of hygienic practices. The CAC is not concerned with making recommendations in the matter of prevention of food adulteration. For advising on all matters of prevention of food adulteration in the country, there is a statutory committee, the Central Committee for Food Standards (CCFS) constituted under the Prevention of Food Adulteration (PFA) Act, 1954.

(b) and (c) While formulating standards under PFA Rules, 1955, the Codex standards, including labeling provisions are taken into consideration wherever necessary. Recently, Ministry of Health and family Welfare has notified a draft amendment to the PFA Rules vide GSR No. 694(E) dated 28.11.2005 for labeling of food items, taking into consideration the Codex guidelines on labeling of prepared foods, for inviting objections and suggestions from all stake-holders. Amending the labeling provisions under PFA Rules, taking into consideration the Codex guidelines, is likely to provide informed choice to the consumers besides incorporatiang provisions relating to health safety.

Trader friendly measures to check food adulteration

2030. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRI MOOLCHAND MEENA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the institutional or any other machinery to check food adulteration;

(b) whether Government have any information of such adulteration;

(c) whether Government are in agreement with the recent media reports on food adulteration;

(d) if so, how could such adulteration take place;

(e) whether the accountability has been fixed and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefore; and

(f) what trader-friendly steps are being taken to firm up the institutional mechanism to check food adulteration without causing unnecessary harassment to traders?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) To check

food adulteration, a legislation called "The Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954" has been enacted. This Act is enforced in the States/UTs through their enforcement machinery comprising of Food (Health) Authority, Local (Health) Authorities and Food Inspectors.

(b) to (e) The enforcement staff of the States/UTs regularly draw random samples of various food commodities being sold in the markets to ascertain food adulteration.

Media Reports on food adulteration, as and when they appear are thoroughly investigated and necessary directions are issued to the concerned Food (Health) Authorities to investigate the matter and take appropriate action under the provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954 and Rules framed thereunder.

(f) The Central Committee for Food Standards which is an Advisory Committee of the Central Govt. on food standards, have members from the industries, traders and other like organizations to put forth their views in setting of Prevention of Food Adulteration Standards/specifications, amendments to rules etc.

Lack of staff in CGHS dispensary

†2031. SHRI BASHISTHA NARAIN SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ayurvedic dispensaries located in central zone of CGHS lack adequate number of clerks and chowkidars, etc., and as a result thereof, they have not been able to function smoothly;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government would ensure posting of appropriate number of clerks and other staff in ayurvedic dispensary at North Avenue and ayurvedic hospital at Lodhi Road so that they are able to function smoothly; and

(d) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There are two Ayurvedic dispensaries fucntioning in Central Zone. One Chowkidar is posted in Kali Bari Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Homoeopathic

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.